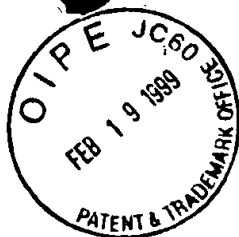


684.2745



S/IDS
Lewis
3-4-99
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
NAOTO SANO, ET AL.) : Examiner: Unassigned
Appln. No.: 09/163,402) : Group Art Unit: 2812
Filed: September 30, 1998) :
For: GAS LASER DEVICE AND) : February 19, 1999
EXPOSURE APPARATUS USING :
THE SAME)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
AND CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)

Sir:

To comply with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 Form. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

Applicants certify that each item of information contained in this disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Specifically, these documents were cited in a Search Report (copy enclosed) dated January 28, 1999, issued in connection with a corresponding European patent application.

The cited documents may be considered relevant for the reasons stated in the search report.

Applicants request that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 Form be initialled and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants believe that no fees should be incurred in connection with filing this paper. Nevertheless, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205 should any fees be associated herewith. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for this purpose.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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